

Historical Inaccuracy in Previously Published Article

First, I would like to congratulate Steve Simpson, Brad Bettis, and James Herbertson on their recent publication "Unloaded Treadmill Training Therapy for Lumbar Disc Herniation Injury" (*JAT*, 1996;31:57-60). I feel that this was a good functional description of the progression using the principles of unweighting. This is similar to my own experience. I concur with progressive precision loading, but would like to offer some insight as to what I consider an historical inaccuracy in their case report.

The authors stated that "unloading was developed by DD Kelsey, PT in 1986. . ." On this point I beg to differ. In 1986, Kelsey attended a course I taught in Hawaii, in which he learned of Oddvar Holten's partial weight-bearing exercise ideas. The terms Holten used were negative weight or weight load. This concept was first developed in the 1960s by Holten. Kelsey gained a more complete exposure in a course I taught in California, in which I further detailed Holten's method. This included the testing and treatment by means of partial weight-bearing exercises while weight-bearing is painful or while functional deficits (such as gait deviations) exist. To this end, it would behoove the authors to give Holten due credit for developing the undergirding concepts and principles now in use in progressive precision loading and unloading.

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Author's Response

Thank you for the positive comments on our findings concerning our article "Unloaded Treadmill Training for Lumbar Disc Herniation Injury." Your input is graciously received. Mr. Kelsey trademarked the term "unloading" and therefore our sources refer to him as the creator of the term. We acknowledge that Holten and

Svendsen also participate in this area of training. We appreciate this opportunity to clarify our position on this topic.

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Student Athletic Trainers and Library Instruction

I found the article, "Navigating the Library Maze," [Whitehill WR et al. 1996;31:50-52—Ed.] to reflect exactly what we have been doing at Ohio University for several years. At the beginning of every fall quarter, Skip Vosler, the Head Athletic Trainer at Ohio University, insists that all new student trainers come to the library for instruction. Serving as Subject Bibliographer for Recreation and Sports Sciences, I personally demonstrate all of the CD databases mentioned in the article: ERIC, MEDLINE, CINAHL, and *Sports Discus*, the CD version of the Sport database. Immediately after my demonstration, students must go to CD-ROM terminals and use all of the above databases, which happen to be networked on a LAN in our Library. Student trainers work in small groups to find article citations pertinent to a subject of their choosing. They must also find at least one of the journal articles and bring it to me so that I can compare the citation with the journal in hand to make sure that they understand how journals are arranged within the library.

In addition to these electronic sources, the *Physical Education Index* has proven to be very useful. The distinctive difference between *Sports Discus* and the *Physical Education Index* is that all of the journals indexed in the *Physical Education Index* are in English and readily available through interlibrary loan. *Sports Discus* tends toward the esoteric. Although I appreciate the fact that *Sports*

Discus offers document delivery, even for the esoteric items, the charges are prohibitive for the ordinary student.

In an attempt to forge a closer bond between the Library and the Athletic Department, Mr. Vosler has assigned a few student trainers to assist in keeping an up-to-date bibliography of all sports medicine books received by the Library. The second task that they assist with is requesting conference proceedings that are indexed on *Sports Discus*. The folks at *Sports Discus* publish a list of upcoming conferences that we have used for many years to get proceedings.

It was interesting to read how other universities manage information retrieval. Here at Ohio University, we throw the kids in and let them swim around. Of course, Mr. Vosler and I keep a loving eye on them so they don't sink in this sea of abundant information.

In addition to the student trainers, all new student athletes must do a library assignment which is coordinated by Dr. Kim Brown, Assistant Athletic Director for Academic Advancement. I check the library assignment and, if any students are having difficulties, I sit down with them and explain a couple of databases and take them through at least one search on a topic related to their major. This is done the very first quarter on campus. Dr. Brown and Mr. Vosler want our students in the Athletic Department to do as well as possible academically. That means that they must know the electronic sources, the print sources, and their special librarian. Every student athlete knows my face, my name, and that I am there to help. I'm delighted to see that other universities are making use of the same resources, including the librarian, who is the ever-present information specialist.

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